

**REMARKS**

The Examiner has required that the present application be restricted, under 35 U.S.C. §§ 121 and 372, to one of the following two groups of claims:

- Group I: Claims 1-6, 8, 13-16, 19-27 and 32-36, drawn to a method of clonal derivation of hBS cells using non-enzymatic treatment to dissociate hBS cell colonies and separately cultivating single cells in a serum based medium and optionally changing to serum-free medium; and
- Group II: Claims 1-6, 9-16, 19-23, and 28-37, drawn to a method of clonal derivation of differentiated hBS-derived cells using non-enzymatic treatment to dissociate hBS-derived cell colonies and separately cultivating single cells in a serum based medium and optionally changing to serum-free medium.

Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, the invention defined by the Examiner as Group I, Claims 1-6, 8, 13-16, 19-27 and 32-36, drawn to a method of clonal derivation of hBS cells using non-enzymatic treatment to dissociate hBS cell colonies and separately cultivating single cells in a serum based medium and optionally changing to serum-free medium.

This response is made without prejudice or disclaimer to any non-elected subject matter, and Applicants reserve the right to file one or more continuation and/or divisional applications directed to any non-elected subject matter.

From the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested and such action is earnestly solicited. In the event that there are any questions concerning this response, or the application in general, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would telephone the undersigned attorney concerning such questions so that prosecution of this application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

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